

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLSOUR

A wireless communication handset and system having improved antenna performance. The system includes a handset body (300) and multiple housing portions with different antenna loading characteristics, for example different materials or shapes, interchangeably mounted on a common portion of the handset body. The handset body (300) includes electrical communications circuitry coupled to an antenna (314), which is adjacent the interchangeable housing portions. A discrete or integrally formed antenna loading feature compensates for the different antenna loading characteristics of the different housing portions to provide optimal antenna performance regardless of the housing portions mounted on the handset body.